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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
10/622,490	07/21/2003	Ken-lchi Hayashi	59556.00006	4989
32294	7590 12/20/2004		EXAMINER	
• /	ANDERS & DEMPSE	ELVE, MARIA ALEXANDRA		
14TH FLOOR 8000 TOWERS CRESCENT			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
TYSONS CORNER, VA 22182			1725	

DATE MAILED: 12/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
Office Action Commence	10/622,490	HAYASHI ET AL.			
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit			
	M. Alexandra Elve	1725			
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Y					
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).					
Status					
1)⊠ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 Ju	ıly 2003.				
<u> </u>					
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is					
closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.					
Disposition of Claims					
 4) Claim(s) 5 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdray 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 5 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or 					
Application Papers					
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine 10) The drawing(s) filed on 21 July 2003 is/are: a) Applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	☑ accepted or b)☐ objected to b drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See ion is required if the drawing(s) is obj	e 37 CFR 1.85(a). ected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119					
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/940,604. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 					
Attachment(s)	,				
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date					
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/21/03.		atent Application (PTO-152)			

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DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: (p. 4, line 20) the term "NA" is not defined. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi (USPN 6,392,683) in view of Physics by Tipler.

Hayashi discloses an object made from a glass material (an optical element) in which a laser light is transmitted by the material and yields marks within the material. The marks cause changes in the optical properties inside the material and regions of differing optical properties, for example refractive index changes, form a pattern.

(abstract, figures, col. 4, lines 8-30). Hayashi does not specifically teach diffraction.

It is well known in the art that changes in the refractive index, change the angle of the light path and hence the light path changes (i.e. diffraction, refraction or reflection, depending on the angle change). (See Tipler) Thus, Hayashi indirectly has diffraction changes in the material.

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to note that diffraction, as stated by Tipler, is a result of changes in optical properties as noted by Hayashi.

It has been held that a recitation of the intended use of a claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim. In re Casey 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967) and In re Otto 136 USPQ 458, 459 (CCPA 1963).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Alexandra Elve whose telephone number is 571-272-1173. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00 Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Dunn can be reached on 571-272-1171. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

December 14, 2004.

M. ALEXANDRA ELVE PRIMARY EXAMINER